

1881

Notes on the 1881 Journal

Rankin MacMillan

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Copy of notes on 1881 Diary by Rankin MacMellau ^{march} 1969

In this year: James is 48, Martha 38.

the children { Fannie 13 years. Horner is 7 Clayton is 1
Fred 11 years. Clara is 5

- January 17th, school re-opened today; was closed since Dec. 3rd.
- March 27-28-29 - Late March snowstorm. This snow stayed on the ground until April 6th when it began to thaw. On this date Martha reports that this was quite a winter for snow.

Snow had started on Nov. 13, 1880 and had continuous snow on the ground from Dec. 8 to February 7 - making 62 days of continuous sleighing in Greene County. It was April 20 before the ground was dry enough to start plowing.

- June 27 - bought a new self-binding wheat reaper.
- August - a sheep shed erected on north side of the road. (over

- House help seemed to be as hard to get in 1881 in Cedarville Twp. as it is in 1969.
- Children did not start to school until 8 years old. That Fall, Fannie did not start until the last of October, due to helping at home.
- Fred took sick Oct. 1 with some type of fever; was very sick for two weeks - stayed at Aunt Jane's in Cedarville so he would be close to a doctor; five weeks before he was able to return home - not able to go to school till Nov. 17.